SUPPLEMENTARY EDITION #2

September 22, 1970

the lion

Published by and for the students of
Saint Leo College

Despite the seemingly inane, ambiguous and ever-procrastinating action (or lackof such) taken by the Board of Trustees of Saint Leo College, the student body has gone ahead and established its own visitation policy based on the proposals stipulated by the Student Government Association.

The immediate impact of this extraordinary action taken by the Student Body has attained a status never before realized at this institution. The students have at long last united their forces against the scourge of apathy and have proven that they are mature enough to stick to their guns despite the insipid remarks (hippies, kids, etc.), disinterrested attitude, and lack of concern on the part of the Board of Trustees of the College.

Students, faculty members and administrators are hot under the collar. And they are rightly so. When a group of men, almost completely removed from the college experience, decide the lives of 1,200 people without showing any understanding of the situation whatsoever, they are failing to administer their expected responsibilities.

It is repeated again -- yesterday, the Board of Trustees failed miserably. They have in effect completely destroyed any respect or esteem that any students many have felt toward them, and, indeed, that a good number of faculty members and administrators may have felt toward them.

Besides this, their "leader", Mr. Raleigh W. Greene, has resorted to such low tactics as the gross misrepresentation and distortion of facts as stated by Sister Lucy Faciane. In her proposal, Sr. Lucy requested that the whole question of visitation be removed from the Board of Trustees and be placed into her responsibility as Dean of Student Affairs. Sister Lucy would then, after serious study and consultation with her staff, provide a proposal favoring a clearly-defined form of visitation policy. This proposal would then go before the President of the College for his approval and, immediately afterwards, become accepted policy.

But, as things turned out, Mr. Greene insisted that the Board of Trustees have the final say. Apparently, he has

(more)

no trust in the school's administration (not to speak of the students). He refuses to grant to Sister Lucy and Rev. Marion Bowman their rightful responsibilities as administrators. Knowing this, it is quite understandable why he did not take to heart the Student Government Association's plea to "request on behalf of the student body not your approval or disapproval of the Visitation Policy, but your understanding that this matter can be administered by those who are directly charged with student administration."

But, to much dissatisfaction, Mr. Greene and his colleagues (some of whom showed absolutely no concern or even knowledge of the situation) displayed their lack of mature character by dwelling upon such notion as the immoral connotations of co-eds in male rooms. As Sister Lucy so truthfully said, one "cannot legislate morality." But they, the Board of Trustees, did.

In the light of this hypocritical conceit, the students rightfully objected. They exhibited the ideal and most mature form of student dissent. No obscenity, no violence -- merely the natural right to physically remove their presence from a meeting marred by the wishy-washy, cowardly doubletalk of a man who has obviously reached his level of incompetency.

It cannot be denied that Mr. Greene has benefited Saint Leo College in a number of ways. But, as so often the unrealistic man refuses to admit, the times are changing. On these grounds and based on what has been stated, be it resolved that The Lion, on behalf of the student body of Saint Leo College, formally appeals to the Administration, Faculty, and Board of Trustees, that Mr. Raleigh W. Greene relinquish his position as Co-Chairman of the Board of Trustees and either serve in another capacity or completely withdraw any authoritative relationship with Saint Leo College.

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It is the sincere hope of the editor that this analysis of a complicated situation be looked upon seriously with thoughtful consideration. As students, we are obliged to accept the concept of student self-government as being best effected when the students realize that its governing board directly influences issues of personal importance. Based on this, it is not merely our moral right, but our moral responsibility to act in the immediate establishment of a mature visitation policy. The students of Saint Leo College have finally taken that first step. They have finally shown their courage, and its beautiful. ... The road is long and the odds are great, but the goal is admirable.

John W. Frank
Editor-in-chief